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A Charge-But What About Facts?

No American has any doubts that our part of the abortive Cuban effort against Red Castro was horribly, stupidly bungled. Even our officials are forced to admit it. But exactly why we so miserably failed, the public does not know for sure. There have been signs pointing in a number of directions. There have been excuses and alibis and admissions and, strangely, silence.

Sen. Albert Gore, D-Tenn., has made the headline-grabbing demand that the entire Joint Chiefs of Staff be ousted and replaced with "new, wiser and abler men."

Sen. Gore has gotten the attention he apparently wanted but he has not given evidence to show that his demand is reasonable or that the ouster

is justified. Sen. Gore could be right; if he is, he should couple his demand with justifying evidence. If evidence is not to be presented, then the demand should not have been made.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff may have performed poorly. Certainly the Central Intelligence Agency proved itself not so intelligent. We ought not to be playing in personalities and parties and politics but doing what is best for the security of our country.

Having few facts about the role, the responsibility and the shortcomings of the military men in the Cuban debacle, the layman does not need much imagination to observe that the "invasion" was hardly carried out with sound, coordinated military planning, whoever was responsible.